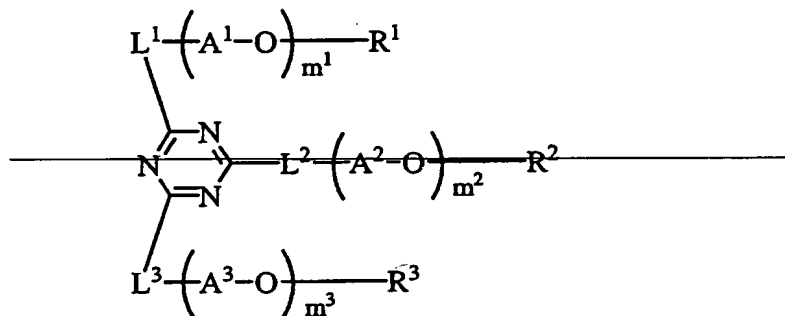


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

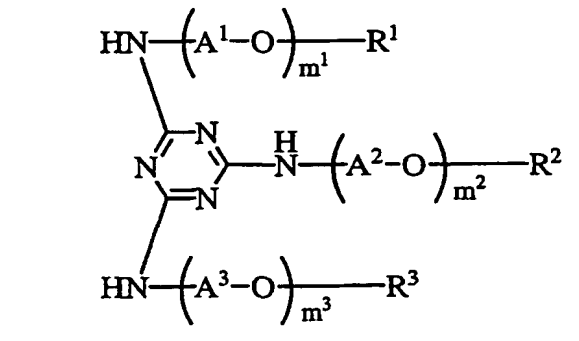
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An optical compensatory sheet comprising
a transparent substrate and
an optically anisotropic layer comprising at least one compound selected from the
group represented by Formula ~~[(I)]~~ (II):

Formula ~~(I)~~

Formula (II)



where ~~L¹, L² and L³ respectively represent a single bond, NR^a, where R^a is a hydrogen atom (H), an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, oxygen atom (O) or sulfur atom (S);~~

A^1 , A^2 and A^3 respectively represent an alkylene group; R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a ~~substituent group~~; substituted or non-substituted alkyl group or a substituted or non-substituted aryl group; and m^1 , m^2 and m^3 respectively represent an integer from 1 to 10, ~~not less than 0, at least one of m^1 , m^2 and m^3 is not 0, when m^1 and m^2 are 0, L^3 represents NH or S~~; and when m^1 , m^2 and m^3 are respectively not less than 2, plural A^1 , A^2 or A^3 may be same as or different from each other; and

the optically anisotropic layer further comprises liquid crystal molecules fixed in hybrid alignment.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Original): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 2, wherein the liquid crystal molecules are selected from discotic liquid crystals.

Claim 4 (Canceled)

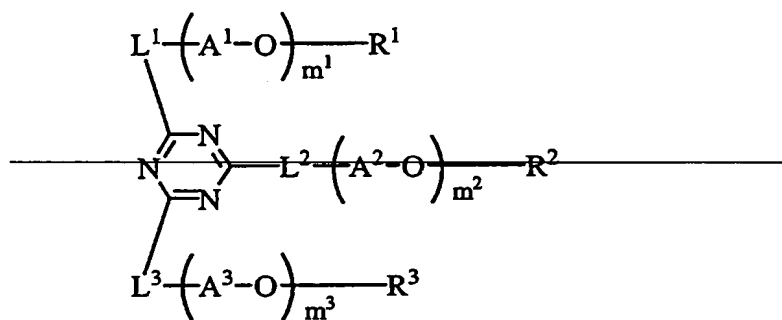
Claim 5 (Original): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group.

Claim 6 (Original): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a C_{1-30} substituted or non-substituted alkyl group.

Claims 7 and 8 (Canceled)

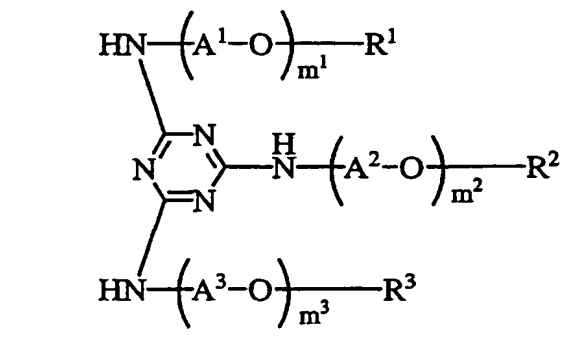
Claim 9 (Original): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein the transparent substrate is a polymer film of cellulose acetate.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An elliptical polarizing plate comprising a transparent substrate,
an optically anisotropic layer comprising at least one compound selected from the group represented by Formula [(I)] (II):



Formula (I)

Formula (II)



where L^1 , L^2 and L^3 respectively represent a single bond, NR^a , where R^a is a hydrogen atom (H), an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, oxygen atom (O) or sulfur atom (S); A^1 , A^2 and A^3 respectively represent an alkylene group; R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a substituent group; substituted or non-substituted alkyl group or a substituted or non-

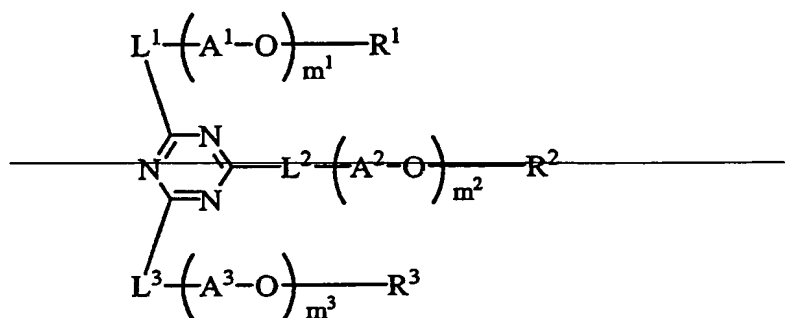
substituted aryl group; and m^1 , m^2 and m^3 respectively represent an integer from 1 to 10, not less than 0, at least one of m^1 , m^2 and m^3 is not 0, when m^1 and m^2 are 0, L^3 represents NH or S; and when m^1 , m^2 and m^3 are respectively not less than 2, plural A^1 , A^2 or A^3 may be same as or different from each other; and

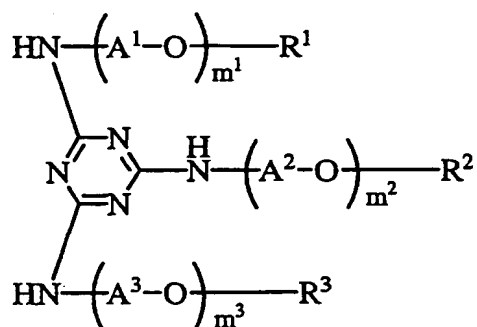
the optically anisotropic layer further comprises liquid crystal molecules fixed in hybrid alignment; and

a polarizing film disposed nearer to the optically anisotropic layer than to the transparent substrate.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A liquid crystal display comprising
a pair of polarizing films,
a liquid crystal cell which is disposed between the polarizing films, and
at least one optically anisotropic layer comprising at least one compound selected
from the group represented by Formula [(I)] (II):

Formula (I)



Formula (II)

where L^1 , L^2 and L^3 respectively represent a single bond, NR^a , where R^a is a hydrogen atom (H), an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, oxygen atom (O) or sulfur atom (S); A^1 , A^2 and A^3 respectively represent an alkylene group; R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a substituent group; substituted or non-substituted alkyl group or a substituted or non-substituted aryl group; and m^1 , m^2 and m^3 respectively represent an integer from 1 to 10, not less than 0, at least one of m^1 , m^2 and m^3 is not 0, when m^1 and m^2 are 0, L^3 represents NH or S; and when m^1 , m^2 and m^3 are respectively not less than 2, plural A^1 , A^2 or A^3 may be same as or different from each other; and

the at least one optically anisotropic layer further comprises liquid crystal molecules fixed in hybrid alignment;

which wherein the at least one optically anisotropic layer is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and at least one of the pair of polarizing films.

Claim 12 (Original): The liquid crystal display of claim 11, wherein the liquid crystal cell is driven in TN-mode.

Claim 13 (New): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a non-substituted alkyl group.

Claim 14 (New): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a C_{1-30} non-substituted alkyl group.

Claim 15 (New): The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 respectively represent a C_{3-30} non-substituted alkyl group.